



News Release

For more information contact:
Joe Kras, Communication Director
Michigan Realtors®
jkras@mirealtors.com
(517) 334-5535

For immediate release

Michigan Realtors® Names Gene Szpeinski Realtor® of the Year

October 5, 2016 – Michigan Realtors® has named Grand Rapids Association of Realtors® member Gene Szpeinski as its 2016 Michigan Realtor® of the Year. Gene was recognized both locally and during The Convention at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mt. Pleasant. Nominees are evaluated on their community service, education, business accomplishments and service to the Realtor® organization at the local, state and national levels.

Gene has been a Realtor® since 1976 and is a Broker with Keller Williams Realty in Grand Rapids. He is a member of the Commercial Alliance of Realtors®, Commercial Board of Realtors® and the Grand Rapids Association of Realtors®. While striving to bring the Commercial organizations closer together, he has been part of the CAR Political Affairs Committee from 2008-16 and the Professional Standards Committee 2013-15 plus served on CBOR's BOD from 2012-14 as well as its Legislative and Financial Committees. He was CBOR's Realtor® of the Year for 2014. For GRAR, Gene has served since 1980 on nearly all committees and task forces including the BOD, the MLS Exchange BOD (President) and currently on the Government Affairs Committee, the Global Real Estate Council of Michigan and as Realtor of the Year for 2001 and 2016.

At the Michigan Realtors®, he has served on the RPAC Trustees from 2002-07, Public Policy Committee from 2012-15, Finance Committee 2012-16 and The Convention Task Force in 2013. Elected to the board in 2008 and 2010, Gene was elected as Treasurer-elect in 2012 and served as Treasurer in 2013, President-elect in 2014 and as Michigan Realtors® President during our 100th year in 2015. For NAR, Gene has been a member of the Land Use, Property Rights and Environment Committee from 2004-16, the Commercial Committee for 2013-16 and the BOD for 2014-16.

His background in real estate includes extensive land development experience ("Under all is the Land"), residential and commercial sales and leasing, management and training. He believes in good policy which has led to many experiences working with local, state and national politicians and officials. Gene looks forward to continued collaboration with fellow Realtors® around the state for the betterment of our members and our communities.

Michigan Realtors® is a 28,000 member trade association which protects the rights of private property owners while serving as the primary source for Michigan housing and real estate data. The statewide annual convention attracts 1,000 practitioners and vendors annually. Michigan Realtors® is comprised of 42 Local Realtor® Associations, which adhere to a strict Code of Ethics, established by the National Association of Realtors®.